

September 2, 1976

Dear Ravenna Resident:

On Thursday, August 26, 1976, representatives of the Seattle Engineering Department and the University District Community Service Center met with members of the business and residential communities affected by reconstruction of the 45th Street Viaduct. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the progress of construction and its effects on the UW football traffic beginning Saturday, September 11.

The Engineering Department informed the community representatives that due to some unfortunate delays in construction, it does not appear that the bridge will be open for traffic for the first game on September 11. Whether or not the bridge will be open for subsequent games will be determined on a week by week basis.

At the August 26th meeting, residents of the Ravenna Community requested that the Engineering Department consider closing Ravenna Blvd. to traffic leaving the football game, with the exception of METRO buses. After reviewing this request, we have determined that we will be able to instruct the police officer stationed at N. E. 54th Street and Ravenna Avenue following the game, to prohibit all access to Ravenna Avenue except buses and residents showing proof of residence. A sign will be placed on Ravenna Avenue reading "Bus Only", in addition to the police officer controlling the intersection.

Because the traffic operation before and after UW football games is the result of many years of development and represents the most equitable treatment we have been able to devise for the surrounding impacted communities, we must stress that this closure of Ravenna Blvd. to vehicular traffic will revert back to the patterns of previous years as soon as the 45th

September 2, 1976
Page 2

Street Viaduct is open to vehicular traffic, and the impact of detouring traffic that normally used the 45th Street Viaduct through the Ravenna Blvd. Community is eliminated.

Very truly yours,

PAUL A. WIATRAK, P.E.
City Engineer

By
Edward F. Engel
Community Relations Officer

EFE:amrn

cc: W. G. van Gelder
A. E. Maronek
Mjr. Marvin G. Wubbens-SPD
Mayor's Office
Patty Whisler University Dist. Community Ser. Center
Bob Barr-Dept. of Human Resources
Chief of Police-SPD

LAW OFFICES
IRVING M. CLARK, JR.
SUITE 209
COLLEGE CLUB BUILDING
SEATTLE 98104
(206) 682-5480

July 16, 1976

Hon. Wes Uhlman, Mayor
Seattle Municipal Building
Seattle, Wa. 98104

re: 45th Street viaduct project

Dear Wes:

Please refer to my earlier letter regarding the above project. I see income statements for a number of merchants on the Avenue, in the U. District, and am struck by the striking loss of volume between 1976 and the same months for 1975. There is no question but that the blocking off of the Northeast 45th Street viaduct has had a very serious impact, which I would estimate runs into the hundreds of thousands of dollars of business lost, extrapolating from the merchants of whom I know.

I'm also struck by the extraordinary slowness with which this work is proceeding. Of course I observe the progress in going from my home in Laurelhurst to my office downtown and back. Is there not something we can do to speed up this process? I'm no engineer, but I can't believe that the reconstruction of a very few hundred feet of the viaduct (after all, most of it is concrete and was never damaged in the fire ten years ago) should take a year. The loss of business to a large number of merchants not only seriously affects them, it also causes a loss of tax revenue to the City. We would be delighted to put together a group to confer with you and Mr. Wiatrak, or whomever, if that would help. I hope I can hear some response from your office.

Best regards as always.

Sincerely,

Irving

Irving M. Clark Jr.

IMC/py

SEATTLE ENG DEPT
JUL 21 8 20 AM '76

Re: N.E. 45th St. Viaduct ~ East Approach
By Bridge Replacement
Ordinance 104635

Honorable Was Uhlman
Mayor
City of Seattle

Dear Sir:

The time specified in the contract for demolition and construction is 160 working days, because although the structure is short in length, it is a complex project. The contractor was ordered to begin work on January 3, 1976. The old bridge deck was of concrete supported on a wood structure and wood piling that had to be rebuilt in its entirety to modern State Highway Standards.

The first stage of construction consisted of the driving of the foundation piles. This work was not visible to one driving by the project. The new structure required a total of 240 concrete piles of up to 76 feet in length. All of the piling have been driven and progress will now be more evident.

The contractor has been working a double shift from May 3, 1976 to July 16, 1976 and will resume a double shift on July 26, 1976.

We have attached a News Release that includes more information.

Very truly yours,
 Paul A. Wiatrak

PAUL A. WIATRAK, P. E.
City Engineer

NWP: dp
Attachment

Seattle City Council

October 12, 1976



Jim Smith
President of the Council
5-2453

George E. Benson
Chairman
Transportation Committee
5-2441

Tom Hill
Chairman
Finance Committee
5-2438

Paul Kraabel
Chairman
Planning & Urban
Development Committee
5-2447

Thyllis Lamphere
Chairman
Intergovernmental
Relations Committee
25-2436

Jayne D. Larkin
Chairman
Utilities Committee
25-2443

John R. Miller
Chairman
Parks & Public
Grounds Committee
125-2451

Randy Ravella
Chairman
Public Safety & Justice
Committee
525-2445

Jeanette Williams
Chairman
Human Resources &
Operations Committee
325-2453

Bronka Serebrin, President
University Village Merchants Association
East 45th Street and 25th Avenue Northeast
Seattle, Washington 98105

Dear Ms. Serebrin:

Thank you very much for your recent letter expressing your collective concern as merchants in the area over delays in the opening of the 45th Street Viaduct.

In your letter you asked several questions which I have looked into. I would like to provide you with the following information:

- a. The viaduct opening is now scheduled for October 18, 1976. The present delay is caused by the need for a specialized pole at the bottom of the viaduct for a signal and street lights. This pole is being provided by a subcontractor and construction of the pole is being done in the midwest. It is my understanding that the pole is being shipped by truck from Nebraska and should arrive in Seattle on Thursday, October 14. The Engineering Department informs me that once the pole is received it can be placed immediately. Following placement of the pole the contractor will asphalt the area. As you know, asphalt requires a dry day, but it is possible that both the pole and the asphalt can be done on the same day.
- b. The Montlake Bridge is a State bridge and the partial closure was due to the State painting activities at the bridge.
- c. I am advising the Engineering Department by copy of this letter of your request for a signal along 25th Avenue Northeast into the University Village.

Once again, thank you for your letter and I hope that the anticipated opening by October 18th will not impinge upon the University Village Christmas shopping period.

Yours truly,

GEORGE E. BENSON, Chairman
Transportation Committee

GEB/ak/kw
Enclosure

CC: Mr. Paul Wiatrak, Engineering
Mr. William van Gelder, Engineering

RECEIVED	DATE	FILE
ACTION		
WCB		
10/14/76		
11/1/76		

OCT 14 9 53 AM '76

SEATTLE ENG DEPT

Eleventh Floor, Municipal Building, Seattle, Washington 98104

Seattle City Council

October 12, 1976



Sam Smith
President of the Council
625-2453

George E. Benson
Chairman
Transportation
Committee
625-2441

Tim Hill
Chairman
Finance Committee
625-2438

Paul Kraebel
Chairman
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Randy Revelle
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Committee
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East 45th Street and 25th Avenue Northeast
Seattle, Washington 98105

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GEORGE E. BENSON, Chairman
Transportation Committee

GEB/ak/kw
Enclosure

CC: Mr. Paul Wiatrak, Engineering
Mr. William van Gelder, Engineering

ROUTED TO	DATE	INITIALS
ACTION		
IN OFFICE		

SEATTLE ENG DEPT
OCT 14 9 53 AM '76

Eleventh Floor, Municipal Building, Seattle, Washington 98104



UNIVERSITY VILLAGE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION East 45th Street and 25th Avenue N.E., Seattle, Washington 98105 Phone: LA 3-0622

September 28, 1976

Mr. George Benson, Chr.
Transportation Committee
Seattle City Council
Seattle, Wa. 98104

Dear Mr. Benson:

This letter is to express our collective concern as merchants in the area over the delays in the opening of the viaduct. We continue to receive conflicting reports as to the completion date. Originally we had been promised that the viaduct would be completed prior to the first Husky football game. Then in a meeting with the Seattle Engineering Department, an October 4th opening date was set. Now we understand it will be late in October.


The closure of the viaduct has seriously hurt the business of many of our merchants cutting customer count in some stores up to 20 percent. With the University starting classes this week we are now missing our traditional back to school boom in business. These potential new customers are now establishing shopping patterns in other areas which will hurt our merchants for the entire year. We as merchants are now concerned about our upcoming Christmas business and would like to get the viaduct open under any circumstances.

In addition to the closure of the viaduct, we have been faced with the partial closure of the Montlake Bridge for painting and the rerouting of traffic along N.E. Pacific Street. This has left us with extremely limited access to the Village on the best of days and virtually no access on Husky football days.

We would also like to point out that a left turn lane and signal for traffic into the Village southbound off 25th N.E. is badly needed.

University Village represents 57 stores, most of them independently owned and employing approximately 900 people. The closure of the viaduct has had a severe economic impact on many of these stores and we ask your help to get this viaduct reopened as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Bronka Serebrin
President

cc: Paul Krazbel
Tim Hill
Paul Wiatrak
Fred Evans



UNIVERSITY VILLAGE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION East 45th Street and 25th Avenue N.E., Seattle, Washington 98105 Phone: LA 3-0622

The preceeding letter is sent by resolution of the following merchants at
at their annual meeting held September 24, 1976

ALPINE HUT	UP FRONT BOUTIQUE
ANDREWS HALLMARK	VICTORIAN PARLOR
ANITA'S ANTIQUES	VILLAGE JEWELERS
BERKMAN SHOES	VILLAGE CLEANING CENTER
BERNIES CAMERA	WASHINGTON STATE LIQUOR STORE
BON TON BAKERY	WHERE TO GO TRAVEL
BRONKA	WOOLWORTH
THE CHEESE SHOPPE	
THE CHILDREN'S SHOP"	
CROSBY~LOLA	
DOWS HOBBY	
ERNST HARDWARE	
FIORINI SPORTS	
DR. A.R. HAGEN	
HAIR EMPHASIS	
HUWILERS RESTAURANT	
KAYS FOOKMARK	
KENS SUBURBAN FURNITURE	
KITCHEN & BATH SHOP	
LA CANTINA	
LAMONTS	
LEE'S KEYS	
MR. PEEPERS	
NEW YORK BAGEL BOYS	
O'CONNORS	
ORTHOPEDIC CORNER CUPBOARD	
ORPHEUS	
PAY 'N SAVE	
PINK GARTER	
POTTERY & PLANT SHACK	
P' ET SOUND MUTUAL SAVINGS BANK	
QFC	
QUEEN SIZE BOUTIQUE	
RAINIER NATIONAL BANK	
RAINBOW BOX FLORIST	
SEATTLE TRUST & SAVINGS BANK	
SHEAR PLEASURE	
SINGER SEWING CO.	
SOLBRO'S SHOE RENEW	
SPORTSWEST	
STANDARD OIL	
STARBUCKS	
JOHN STERN	
STITCH 'N TIME	
SANDWICH BOARD	
TURBULENT TURTLE	
UNIVERSITY VILLAGE NATURAL FOOD	
UNIVERSITY FRAME	
UNIVERSITY VILLAGE MUSIC	